COVID-19
UPDATES & INFORMATION
6/23/20

Updates, Information & Resources

Meals on Wheels Need You!
We heard this morning on our member and partner call that so many of the new volunteers who stepped up during over the last few months to deliver meals have gone back to work. So, all of Maine’s area agencies on aging need your help! Please get the word out that we need volunteers to deliver meals to older people who cannot prepare meals for themselves. We can connect you with your local agency if you’re not sure who to call. Thank you!

LeadingAge: House Democrats propose housing, healthcare infrastructure package
Click here to read more

SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM STATE PLAN PUBLIC HEARINGS
Click here to read the bulletin

National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC) Resources around Census 2020
Over the coming months, NCoC hopes to serve as a resource to organizations like yours as you work to ensure that hard to count populations are represented in your communities. In partnership with Luminate, SLSV Coalition, Georgetown’s Beeck Center for Social Impact + Innovation, and the USC Annenberg Innovation Lab, we are excited to announce a set of resources to help you adapt your GOTC efforts in response to COVID-19. Starting in July, NCoC is providing a series of expert-led office hours and trainings on a first-come first-served basis. These sessions will help you strategize and adapt your local GOTC efforts in response to COVID-19. Additional details and dates for these trainings will be announced shortly.
Click here to sign up for the communications
New Research Reveals COVID-19 Inflicted a Heavy Toll on Mid-Size Nonprofit Organizations Across the Country
Click here to read more

Virtual Events: How Organizations Are Offering Virtual Versions of Festivals, Events and Conferences
Click here to read more

Impacts on Public Transportation Survey For People in Greater Portland Area
As you know very well, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to many questions about how public transportation will be impacted. GPCOG and consultants from AECOM are currently researching the possible impacts of COVID-19 on public transit in the region. We want to hear your thoughts and opinions about how the COVID-19 pandemic will impact the future of public transit service in the Greater Portland region. Your feedback will be summarized and shared with the region's transit agencies to help them plan for the future. Your insights will also inform Transit Tomorrow, the region's long-range transit plan currently in development.
Click this link to take the survey

Maine has nation’s worst COVID-19 racial disparity
Click here to read the article

Funding Opportunities

CARES ACT FUNDS MINI-GRANTS AVAILABLE
All of the Area Agencies on Aging are offering mini-grants to local community partners though the CARES act funding. Contact your AAA directly for more information. We will also be sharing more information as we receive notice from the AAA's.

Here are some links to available mini-grants:

Southern Maine Agency on Aging: York and Cumberland Counties
Click here for more information

SeniorsPlus: Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford Counties
Click here for more information and click here for the application

Grant Application: 2020 Census COVID Contingency Fund
COVID-19 has impacted Census Bureau operations, media coverage of the 2020 Census, and civil society’s efforts to get out the count. The Census COVID Contingency Fund is supporting local get out the count (GOTC) efforts reaching the hardest to count populations (those with a response rate under the national average) by providing contingency funding and digital training. For this first round of funding we have ten $2500 grants available to eligible applicants.
Click here to read more and apply
Upcoming Learning Opportunities

Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging "Resiliency & Recovery Conversation" Series
(Tomorrow) June 24th 2:00 - 3:00 pm: Senior Center Check In Call
July 22nd 2:00 - 3:00 pm: Adult Day Center Check In Call
Click here to learn more & register

(NEW) Introducing The Eden Lab - Trans Health & LGBT Aging
From the award-winning Embodied Labs immersive platform comes a new experience -- The Eden Lab: Trans Health & LGBT Aging. This lab will explore the unique challenges of identifying as an older adult from the LGBT community, with a special focus on trans health. Attendees will be able to get a sneak peek into scenes from within the VR headset, and hear from a panel of experts and practitioners from academia, healthcare, residential care communities, and more on why they think The Eden Lab is so important to use in training. We'll also discuss practical tips for how to incorporate immersive learning into your organization in individual, group, and distance learning modes.

After attending this webinar, attendees will be able to:
* Articulate some of the key ways that LGBT aging is unique
* Be familiar with the key learning objectives of The Eden Lab
* Identify three use cases (academic, community health, and residential community care) for utilizing The Eden Lab and other immersive content in training
* Understand how to design training with the stakeholders of the LGBT community

Speakers: Erin Washington, Co-Founder, Embodied Labs/Dr. Marilyn Gugliucci, Professor and Director of Geriatrics Research at the University of New England/Dr. Jaime Hannans, RN, CNE, Associate Professor of Nursing at California State University Channel Islands/Dr. Tonia Nguyen, OTD, OTR/L, Project Coordinator & Trainer, Front Porch Communities
Click here to register

UMaine Health Connection Chats
Click here to learn more about past chats & find out about upcoming chats

Alzheimer's Association: COVID-19 Caring Conversations
COVID-19 Caring Conversations (for people with memory loss and their caregivers)
COVID-19 Caring Conversations For Professionals
Click here for more information and to register

[ASA: Future Proof] When America Catches a Cold, Black America Gets Pneumonia: NCBA Responds to COVID
June 25, 1:00 PM (PDT)
Karyne Jones, President and CEO of the National Caucus and Center on Black Aging will share how COVID-19 has impacted her organization, with a focus on affected African American elders and the services NCBA provides for them. She will address societal issues, including social determinants, chronic disease and access to healthcare, that continue to plague the African American community and how they are reflected in the imbalance in virus cases. She will describe the changes they had to make, including the way they communicate, and highlight lessons learned.
Click here to register

Addressing Social Isolation Through Technology Solutions
Webinar on Friday, June 26 at 1:00 - 2:00 pm ET.
ACL presents a webinar highlighting how technology can be leveraged to increase social engagement, including specific hardware and software options. Presenters will also identify resources for acquiring and distributing technology, as well as mechanisms for training older adults and adults with disabilities to use technology solutions designed to mitigate social isolation. 

Click here to register

Meals on Wheels America to host National Social Isolation Virtual Summit Presented by the Caesars Foundation
TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2020 | 10:30AM PST/ 1:30PM EST
The National Social Isolation Virtual Summit will focus on critical issues affecting older Americans, including social isolation, hunger and loneliness, and finding cross-sector solutions that provide enhanced quality of life.

Click here to read more and register

Free Training for Direct Care Workers on PPE
This grant funded PPE training module was developed specifically for direct care workers. Find the Direct Care training in the yellow box at the link below.

Click here to read more

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Local Community Volunteer Efforts

Check out this initiative!

Boothbay Region Community Resource Council
The Boothbay Region has come together to connect neighbors to the services and resources they need. They have compiled a list of local food sources, curbside and delivery options and much more.

Click here to read more

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Maine Council on Aging is working to share any community efforts & available resources across Maine and have started sharing on our website for easy reference. Check out the link below & share within your networks to ensure that service providers of all kinds can more easily find the services older people need during this crisis. This page is updated daily as we hear from more communities - please check back often!

MCOA Local Community Volunteer Efforts Listing

Are you a part of a local volunteer effort in your community and do not see it listed at the webpage above? Please let us know about it by completing the brief survey here.

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In Case You Missed It

MCOA Legislative Testimony on COVID-19
On 6/19/20, Jess Maurer provided testimony on behalf of the Maine Council on Aging in front of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. During the hearing, the
committee heard input from specific businesses or business sectors on their current challenges, how they have responded and their ideas on how Maine government can support them.

Click here to read the testimony

CDC: Food and Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (updated 6/19/20)

Click here to read more

Maine Public: Nursing Homes Struggle As Staff Choose Unemployment Checks Over Paychecks

Click here to read the article

Looking for more resources and information?
Click the button below to access more information and resources from MCOA and past daily email updates.

CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION & RESOURCES

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